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Subject: Land Team News Roundup - 5/25/16

Here are Land Team stories for today. As no surprise, TSCA Reform is at the top right now. Looks like the Senate will vote tomorrow. Otherwise, passing along various items of interest across a range of Land topics.

TSCA REFORM

H.R. 2576 - HOUSE AMENDMENT TO SENATE AMENDMENT - May 24, 2016 - <https://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/BILLS-114hr2576eah/pdf/BILLS-114hr2576eah.pdf>

- **LATEST DEVELOPMENTS**

- **Senate to Vote on TSCA Tomorrow, Inhofe Says** [Bloomberg BNA]

- Posted: May 25, 2016, 11:25 AM EDT*

- The Senate will vote tomorrow on legislation passed by the House to reform the Toxic Substances Control Act, Sen. Jim Inhofe (R-Okla.) told reporters today.

- The bill has been "hotlined" to see if the Senate can move it by unanimous consent, said Inhofe, the chairman of the Senate Environment and Public Works Committee.

- "The response has been very good," he said.

- **House Passes TSCA-Reform Bill on 403-12 Vote** [Bloomberg BNA]

- On a 403 to 12 vote, the House approves legislation that would give the EPA more authority to evaluate and control the nation's industrial chemicals. The Senate is expected to quickly take up—and easily pass—the bill, the Frank R. Lautenberg Chemical Safety for the 21st Century Act (H.R. 2576).

- **Shimkus on 'Historic' Agreement on Chemical Reform** [Bloomberg BNA]

- Rep. John Shimkus (R-Ill.), chairman of the House Energy and Commerce Subcommittee on Environment and the Economy, has taken the lead in ushering through Congress the first update of the Toxic Substances Control Act in 40 years. Shortly before the House voted May 24 on the final bill (H.R. 2576), Shimkus spoke to a group of reporters about the process and lessons learned.

- **The TSCA Amendments Simplified: Nine Key Features of the New Law and Three Compromises That Will Affect Business** [Bloomberg BNA]

- Congress is enacting sweeping amendments to the nation's cornerstone chemicals control law, the 40-year-old Toxic Substances Control Act. The amendments are intended to empower and re-invigorate the Environmental Protection Agency's program for controlling risks to human health and the environment from chemical substances that are imported, manufactured, and processed in the United States. Lawrence Cullen of Arnold & Porter LLP distills the key elements of the new legislation and how it will affect businesses and other organizations.

- **House passes TSCA legislation; Senate up next** [E&E Daily]

House lawmakers easily passed bipartisan legislation to update the nation's chemical safety law by a vote of 403-12 yesterday, leaving the measure just days away from potentially reaching President Obama's desk.

PUBLIC HEALTH RESEARCH

- EPA, NIH launch centers to study regional environmental threats [E&E News PM]
U.S. EPA and the National Institutes of Health announced the launch today of five new research centers to focus on communities affected by environmental factors that threaten public health. Each center will enlist scientists and community organizations to probe ways to reduce exposure to environmental threats. These "centers of excellence on environmental health disparities research" will be funded by NIH's National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences (NIEHS) and National Institute on Minority Health and Health Disparities (NIMHD) and by EPA's National Center for Environmental Research.

TIRES

- California, Activists Launch Pilot to Recover Old Tires [Bloomberg BNA]
The state of California has launched a pilot program with the binational environmental group Wildcoast/Costasalvaje to **remove and recycle** between 50,000 and 100,000 **discarded tires** from the San Diego-Tijuana border region over the next year

PESTICIDES

- GMO Authorizations Should Be Refused, European Parliament Panel Says [Bloomberg BNA]
[GMO item but with peripheral issues related to EU's concerns for glyphosate reauthorization]
Members of the European Parliament's environment committee May 24 objected to European Union authorizations for two genetically engineered crops, in part because of lawmakers' concerns about the herbicide **glyphosate**.

LEAD

- UN Environment Assembly Urges Ban on Lead in Paint [Bloomberg BNA]
The United Nations May 24 called on delegates attending the Second Session of the United Nations Environment Assembly in Nairobi to urge their governments to ban the **use of lead in paint**, saying there is no safe level of exposure to lead.

SUPERFUND

- U.S. Asks Appellate Court To Uphold Dismissal Of Superfund Law Liability [Inside EPA]
The United States is urging a federal appellate court to uphold a ruling that found the federal government not to be liable as an "owner" under the **Superfund** law for extensive contamination stemming from a company's mining operations on public lands, arguing courts have discretion to interpret the term owner and that legal title to lands is not enough to impose **owner liability**.

RISK MANAGEMENT PROGRAM (RMP)

- EPA Defends Facility Safety Rulemaking Process From Lawmakers' Attacks [Inside EPA]
EPA is defending from Republican lawmakers' attacks its process for developing a proposed overhaul of its facility safety program, rejecting GOP requests to delay the rulemaking in order to allow more time for critics to weigh in on the proposal and downplaying claims that the policy will impose unfunded mandates on emergency responders.

ZIKA

- House Passes Zika Control Bill, Axing Water Permits [Bloomberg BNA]
[Relating to water permits but deals with application of FIFRA pesticides]
The Republican-dominated House passes legislation banning Clean Water Act discharge permits for pesticides sprayed on or near waters until September 2018. After the 258-156 vote, the Zika Vector Control Act (H.R. 897) now moves to the Senate for consideration. Twenty-three Democrats join Republicans in voting for passage of this measure, which would ax requirements for permits under the Clean Water Act National Pollutant Discharge

Elimination System program for pesticides already registered under the Federal Insecticide, Fungicide and Rodenticide Act.

BUDGET

- House GOP FY17 Bill Blocks Major EPA Rules But Avoids Large Funding Cuts [Inside EPA]
[Of interest are riders trying to halt some EPA actions involving pesticides and the Superfund program]
House Republicans are floating a fiscal year 2017 funding bill for EPA that would block a host of major agency regulations including its climate rules for the power and oil and gas production sectors as well as its Clean Water Act (CWA) jurisdiction rule, but the legislation would make only slight cuts to EPA's overall funding levels.
- House Bill Would Cut EPA Funds, Undercut Programs [Bloomberg BNA]
[Potential cuts for RCRA e-manifest fund & increases for Superfund, USTs; block for CERCLA 108(b) regs, but push for coal ash rule]
The EPA would receive close to \$8 billion in fiscal year 2017 funding, about \$164 million less than current levels, under a House Republican appropriations bill for Interior, Environment and Related Agencies. The bill would undercut regulatory program allocations in President Obama's FY 2017 budget by more than 20 percent, a figure that equates to a 6 percent, or \$43 million, cut from FY 2016 funding levels, the committee says.